

Message Text

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PAGE 01 COLOMB 02371 211213Z

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ACTION CU-04

INFO OCT-01 NEA-05 ISO-00 /010 W
----- 025750

P 211200Z SEP 73

FM AMEMBASSY COLOMBO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 44

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE COLOMBO 2371

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OEXC, CE

SUBJ: 1973-74 US PROFESSOR PROGRAM

REF STATE 187684

1. EMBASSY AND FOUNDATION DISTRESSED TO LEARN THAT CIEP CAN DELIVER ONLY TWO SECOND CHOICE CANDIDATES IN THIRD AND FOURTH PRIORITY FIELDS FOR THE THREE PROFESSOR GRANTS IN THIS YEAR'S PROGRAM. UNDERSTAND THAT DECLINATIONS BEYOND ANYONE'S CONTROL BUT MUST POINT OUT THAT THIS PERFORMANCE JEOPARDIZES REPUTATION AND INTEGRITY OF THE PROGRAM IN SRI LANKA.

2. PROGRAM PROPOSALS ARE PAINSTAKINGLY DEVELOPED THROUGH SERIES OF MEETINGS INVOLVING CAMPUS PRESIDENTS, VICE-CHANCELLOR AND HIGH RANKING GSL OFFICIALS. UNIVERSITY BASES PLANS ON ASSUMPTION THAT U.S. WILL PROVIDE PROFESSORS AT LEAST IN TOP PRIORITY FIELDS.

3. PROGRAM HAS HERETOFORE ENJOYED HIGH REPUTATION AND OFFICIALS INVOLVED UNDERSTANDING AT FIRST, SECOND, EVEN THIRD DECLINATION. PRESENT SITUATION, HOWEVER, PLACES EMBASSY AND FOUNDATION IN COMPLETELY UNTENABLE POSITION. UNLESS THIS SITUATION CAN BE CORRECTED, IT COULD RESULT IN SUBSTANTIAL DIMINUTION EXCHANGE PROGRAM'S IMAGE IN THIS COUNTRY.

4. REQUEST IMMEDIATE, ACTIVE RECRUITMENT EFFORT TO LOCATE PROFESSOR OF PRODUCTION ENGINEERING OR STATISTICS. AS LOCAL
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ACADEMIC YEAR OPERATES ON CALENDAR YEAR BASIS, PROFESSOR COULD

ARRIVE AS LATE AS JANUARY.

5. UNDERSTAND THAT ABOVE NOT IN ACCORDANCE USUAL PRACTICES
BUT CONSIDER THIS AN EMERGENCY.
VAN HOLLEN

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Message Attributes

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